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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

1937 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

NORTHEAST REGION

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**16 WAYS TO CONSERVE SOIL AND  
QUALIFY FOR PAYMENTS IN NEW JERSEY**

U. S. Department of Agriculture

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**TO NEW JERSEY FARMERS:**

By doing 1 or more of the 16 things listed above you can qualify for payments under the 1937 agricultural conservation program. The payments will cover part of the out-of-pocket cost of using the practices. This leaflet gives the rate of payment for each practice and tells just what to do to be eligible for a payment. The payments and the rates given are contingent upon Congress making available in 1937 the full amount of money authorized in the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act. If you are particularly interested in any one practice you can find it quickly by turning to the page number listed on page 1 opposite the name of the practice.

A top limit will be established for the amount which may be earned by adopting soil-building practices on any one farm. "The Soil-Building Allowance" (p. 2) tells how to figure out what that allowance will be for your farm. "Applying for Payment" (p. 5) and "Other Points Affecting Payment" (p. 6) also contain information you will need.

Terms such as "cropland" and "open noncrop pasture" have definite meanings in this program. These and other terms are defined on page 7.

After you find out just how the program will help you carry out your plans for good farming, you will need to discuss your plans with your county agent or committeeman, to make sure that what you intend to do can be approved as good farming for your particular land.

Probably there is nothing unfamiliar in the list of soil-building practices. All of them are suited to conditions in New Jersey and have been encouraged by the State extension service. Many successful farmers have been using them for years. Liming, for instance, is needed for sweetening acid soils. The soil on many farms in the State needs either phosphoric acid, or potash, or nitrogen, or combinations of the three to supply the proper plant food. Turning under green-manure crops enriches the soil.

The national agricultural conservation program aims at conserving and improving national farm resources. The program for New Jersey carries out the principles of the national program through the use of practices recommended by county and State committees and approved by the United States Secretary of Agriculture.

## THE SOIL-BUILDING ALLOWANCE

New Jersey farmers who properly carry out 1 or more of the 16 approved soil-building practices will be eligible for soil-building payments within the limits of their soil-building allowances. The soil-building allowance is the total amount which may be earned by adopting soil-building practices on a farm. A farmer may earn all or part of his allowance, depending on the practices he uses. But he cannot earn more than his allowance no matter how many practices he uses.

The following items will be included in determining a farm's soil-building allowance. Every farm will have an allowance of at least \$20, even if the items do not add up to that amount.

\$1 for every acre of cropland.

\$1 additional for each acre of commercial orchards cultivated on the farm on January 1, 1937.

\$1 additional for each acre of cropland on which *only one* crop of commercial vegetables was grown in 1936.

\$2 additional for each acre of cropland on which *two or more* crops of commercial vegetables were grown on the same acreage in 1936.

40 cents additional for each acre of fenced noncrop open pasture land in excess of one-half of the number of acres of cropland on the farm.

## SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

A farmer may choose and carry out any one or more of the approved soil-building practices which will help to improve his farm.

If a practice calls for the use of specific materials such as limestone he may substitute equivalent amounts of any other approved material which serves the same purpose, and still qualify for payment.

Approved soil-building practices for New Jersey this year are these:

### SEEDING CLOVER

**Practice No. 1.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2 per acre.**

Seeding clover or mixtures containing at least 5 pounds per acre of hardy domestic (unstained) or Canadian (stained 1 percent violet) red clover seed, or any alsike or sweetclover seed, on cropland or non-crop pasture land prepared for seeding by the application of amounts of lime and fertilizing materials recommended by the county agricultural agent.

### SEEDING ALFALFA

**Practice No. 2.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$3 per acre.**

Seeding alfalfa seed bearing the United States verified origin tag from Kansas, Utah, or States farther north; or the State certification tag identifying it as Grimm alfalfa seed; or mixtures containing at least 8 pounds of such alfalfa seed, on cropland or noncrop pasture land prepared for the seeding by the application of amounts of lime and fertilizing materials recommended by the county agricultural agent.

### GROWING ANNUAL GRASSES OR SMALL GRAINS AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS

**Practice No. 3.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$1.50 per acre.**

Plowing or disking under small grains or annual grasses or mixtures of these with legumes which have attained at least 2 months' or 12 inches' growth.

### GROWING LEGUMES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS

**Practice No. 4.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2.50 per acre.**

Plowing or disking under biennial or perennial legumes from which no crop has been harvested and for which no seeding payment will be or has been made under this or any previous program, and which have attained at least 2 months' or 12 inches' growth, or annual legumes which have attained such growth.

**Other ways to use green-manure practices.**—When green-manure crops are turned under on land normally used for the production of commercial vegetables, so that at least one crop of commercial vegetables is replaced, the rates of payment listed for practice nos. 3 and 4 will be doubled.

When annual grains are clipped green and left on land normally used for the production of commercial vegetables, and no crop is removed from the land in 1937, this substitute practice may be used: If the clipped grains are followed by legume crops specified in practice no. 4, and the legumes are left on the land for the remainder of the 1937 growing season, it will not be necessary to turn under either crop. Clipping the grains takes the place of turning them under, and leaving the legumes on the land takes the place of turning them under. The provision for doubled rates still will apply.

Leaving the entire crop on the land during the winter may be substituted for plowing or disking under in practice no. 3 or no. 4 if the crop is one that is normally winter-killed.

### PLANTING FOREST TREES

**Practice No. 5.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$10 per acre.**

Planting transplanted forest trees of approved varieties, at the rate of at least 1,000 trees per acre, on suitable land in an approved manner.

Operators are advised to obtain instructions for performing this practice from the State extension forester or the county committee.

Recommended varieties for planting are: White ash, black locust, Scotch pine, red oak, white oak, red pine, white pine, tulip poplar, Norway spruce, black walnut.

The following varieties are recommended for south Jersey only: Loblolly pine, white cedar, short leaf pine.

Other varieties may be planted if the county committee, following the advice of the State extension forester, approves the selection.

Hardwood species should be 1- or 2-year seedlings. Evergreens should be 2-year seedlings or transplants.

April is the preferable planting month for north Jersey. March or April is preferable for south Jersey. October or November is the second choice.

## BUILDING 2-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES

**Practice No. 6.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** 15 cents per rod.

Constructing a 2-strand barbed-wire fence with posts or other suitable supports not more than 1 rod apart, to exclude livestock from farm woodland previously used for pasture.

**Practice No. 7.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** 20 cents per rod.

Constructing a 3-strand barbed-wire fence with posts or other suitable supports not more than 1 rod apart, to exclude livestock from farm woodland previously used for pasture.

## MULCHING ORCHARDS

**Practice No. 8.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** \$2 per ton on not more than 5 tons per acre.

Applying to orchards not less than 2 tons of mulching material per acre in addition to leaving in the orchard all materials produced therein during 1937 from grass, legume, green-manure, or cover crops.

## LIMING CROPLAND OR PASTURE

**Practice No. 9.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** \$1.50 per 1,000 pounds.

Applying 1,000 to 6,000 pounds of ground limestone, or its equivalent, per acre to cropland or pasture.

**Ground-limestone equivalents.**—One thousand pounds of ground limestone is equivalent to 1,000 pounds of ground oyster shells or to 700 pounds of hydrated lime or other similar material found by the county committee to serve the same purpose as well.

Ground limestone is limestone which will analyze at least 80 percent carbonates, 90 percent of which will pass through a 20-mesh sieve and 50 percent of which will pass through a 100-mesh sieve.

## USING PHOSPHORIC ACID, POTASH, OR NITROGEN WITH SOIL-CONSERVING CROPS

Applying phosphoric acid, potash, nitrogen, or approved combinations of these materials to established sod (in pastures, orchards, or hay lands) or in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes or green-manure crops.

**Practice No. 10.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** 4 cents per pound for available phosphoric acid.

Payment will be limited to the application of not less than 16 pounds and not more than 96 pounds of available phosphoric acid per acre.

When phosphoric acid is applied in connection with a seeding made in a nurse crop which is harvested for grain, the payment will be made only for amounts of phosphoric acid in excess of 32 pounds per acre. Payments will also be made for phosphoric acid when added to farm manures as a preservative and reinforcement in approved amounts and when such farm manures are for use on established sod or in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes or green-manure crops.

**Practice No. 11.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** 3 cents per pound for available potash.

Payment will be limited to the application of not less than 7½ pounds and not more than 75 pounds of available potash per acre.

**Practice No. 12.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** 4 cents per pound for available nitrogen.

Payment will be limited to the application of not more than 24 pounds of available nitrogen per acre to hay land or 32 pounds of available nitrogen per acre for any other use.

#### **MAINTAINING SOIL ON CRANBERRY BOGS**

Applying not less than the following quantities of sand, free from stones and loam, on fruiting bogs to prevent soil deterioration and decline in productive capacity of the land.

**Practice No. 13.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** \$7.50 per acre.

One-half inch of sand, evenly distributed.

**Practice No. 14.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** \$11.25 per acre.

Three-quarters inch of sand, evenly distributed.

**Practice No. 15.—RATE OF PAYMENT,** \$15 per acre.

One inch of sand, evenly distributed.

#### **FOLLOWING A FARM PLAN**

**Practice No. 16.—RATE OF PAYMENT:** \$10; plus 5 cents for each acre of land mapped; the total payment not to exceed \$25 on any farm.

Developing and carrying out a comprehensive conservation program for the farm. Requirements for payment for this practice include: (a) Preparing, in conference with proper extension or conservation representative, a plan for the use and management of crop and pasture lands, and, in certain cases, woodlands; the plan to be submitted as an integral part of a general farm-management plan for the farm, covering a period of 3 or more years; (b) approval of the plan by the county committee as providing for satisfactory improvement in the economic use and conservation of the land; (c) submitting as background for the plan a map of the farm prepared according to specifications prescribed by the State committee; and (d) making such a start in 1937 in carrying out the plan as is approved by the county committee as satisfactory evidence that it has been seriously adopted as a working program for the farm.

#### **APPLYING FOR PAYMENT**

To be eligible to participate in the 1937 agricultural conservation program a farmer must make out the necessary forms and supply the other necessary information. Forms and information shall be filed with the county committee within time limits established by the State

committee with the approval of the Director of the Northeast Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Payments will be made only upon application on the proper form filed with the county committee within the time fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture, supported by any necessary information regarding farming operations.

An application for payment may be made by any producer who is entitled to receive all or a share of the crops or of the proceeds of the crops produced on the farm in 1937, or by any producer who incurs all or any part of the expense of soil-building practices carried out on the farm.

#### **OTHER POINTS AFFECTING PAYMENT**

**RATES OF PAYMENT.**—The rates of payment listed in this leaflet may be increased or decreased by not more than 10 percent, depending on how many farmers take part in the program.

**APPROVAL REQUIRED.**—Payment will be made only if a soil-building practice is in line with generally accepted standards of good farming. For that reason, every farmer who plans to carry out a soil-building practice should first consult with his county committee, to make sure that the practice is suitable to his farm and that the materials and methods he plans to use are up to approved standards.

**TIME LIMIT.**—Payments under the 1937 program will be made only for practices carried out before December 1, 1937.

**NO DUPLICATION OF PAYMENT.**—No payment will be made for a practice carried out on any acreage if labor, seed, or other material used in carrying out the practice is furnished free or paid for by a State or Federal agency.

**INCREASE IN ACREAGE OF GENERAL SOIL-DEPLETING CROPS.**—The Secretary of Agriculture reserves the right to make deductions from payments otherwise earned if in 1937 a farm's acreage of general soil-depleting crops is in excess of 20 acres and is larger than the farm's normal acreage of such crops. The rate of deduction will be \$11.50 for each acre by which the 1937 acreage of general soil-depleting crops exceeds the general soil-depleting base acreage which can be established for the farm.

**ASSOCIATION EXPENSES.**—In computing payments, deductions will be made for County Agricultural Conservation Association expenses.

**1937 OPERATIONS MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH PROGRAM**—Payments may be withheld if any rotation, cropping, or other practice which tends to defeat the purpose of the program is adopted in 1937. No payment will be made for any practice unless it is generally considered good farming practice for the locality.

**OTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.**—On any farm where a program is carried out in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service or the Resettlement Administration, payment will be made only for carrying out such soil-building practices as are, prior to performance, approved for the farm by the county committee in accordance with special instructions issued by the Secretary of Agriculture governing such cases.

**DIVISION OF PAYMENTS.**—On farms where two or more producers are concerned, the soil-building payment shall be divided among them

in proportion to each producer's share of the total expense of carrying out the soil-building practices, according to the facts found by the county committee.

## MEMBERSHIP IN ASSOCIATION

Any person having an interest in the crops or proceeds of crops produced on any farm in his county in 1937 shall become a member of the County Agricultural Conservation Association whenever any form or information required in connection with the 1937 program is submitted for the farm in which he is interested, or whenever in 1937 he attends a meeting called for the purpose of electing committeemen. Any person shall cease to be a member of the association if in 1937 he does not file an application for payment within the time specified by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Each county association shall designate a group of persons to assist in the administration of the 1937 program in the county. That group will be known as the county agricultural conservation committee, or county committee.

## DEFINITIONS

**CROPLAND** is farm land which is tillable and on which at least one crop other than wild hay was harvested or planted for harvest between January 1, 1930, and January 1, 1937, and any other farm land devoted on January 1, 1937, to fruit orchards, vineyards, or cultivated bush fruits other than those abandoned.

**COMMERCIAL ORCHARDS** means tree fruits, cultivated nut trees, vineyards, or cultivated bush fruits including cranberries, on the farm on January 1, 1937, from which the principal part of the production is normally sold, including also the acreage of young nonbearing orchards from which the principal part of the production will be sold in 1937 or later.

**COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES** means vegetables or truck crops (including among others potatoes, sweetpotatoes, melons, cantaloups, and strawberries, but excluding sweet corn for canning and peas for canning) from which the principal part of the production was sold off the farm in 1936.

**OPEN NONCROP PASTURE** means fenced noncrop pasture land on which the predominant growth is forage suitable for dairy animals, and on which the number or grouping of any trees or shrubs is such that the land could not fairly be considered as woodland. Each 5 acres of such land must be capable of supporting at least one cow or one horse (or the equivalent in smaller animals) during the normal pasture season. Five sheep, five goats, two calves, or two colts are considered the equivalents of one cow or one horse.

